



Certification and Testing Division
5650 Terra Court, Sun Prairie, WI 53590 USA

Phone: 608/837-2790
Fax: 608/837-2830
www.tecotested.com

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Contact:
Ron Musolino
Vice President, Marketing
Address and Contact Information Above
ron.musolino@tecotested.com

TECO Announces Purchase of Shear Tester Business from Mater International

Sun Prairie, WI, December 1, 2005 — TECO of Sun Prairie, Wisconsin announces the purchase of the TECO-Mater Shear Tester business from Mater International, Inc. who initially developed the Shear Tester for TECO in the mid-1960's. The TECO-Mater Shear Tester was designed to pull apart plywood glue-bond samples and revolutionized quality control in the plywood industry. It has played a major role in improving the quality and consistency of plywood produced throughout North America. For over 40 years, the TECO-Mater Shear Tester has been marketed and manufactured by Mater International, one of the Mater family of companies.

Since its start in 1933, TECO has been dedicated to quality control and research within the forest products industry. But it wasn't until the mid-1990's that Ed Starostovic, TECO's owner and CEO, expanded TECO's role into the design and manufacture of test machines for the structural wood panel industry. TECO's purchase of the TECO-Mater Shear Tester was completed in November 2005, adding the TECO-Mater Shear Tester to its line of panel test equipment for OSB and plywood manufacturers.

TECO will provide continuity for owners of the Shear Testers. According to Dr. Jean Mater, President of Mater International of Corvallis, Oregon, "It makes perfect sense for TECO to continue the manufacture, service and maintenance for the TECO-Mater Shear Tester. This brings what began over forty years ago full circle." Adds Starostovic, "Being able to expand the line of test machines available from TECO with one that has been associated with TECO for so long is a real plus. It is a testament to the simplicity and integrity of the design that this test machine is still a necessary component in plywood mills today."

TECO maintains offices in Sun Prairie and Madison, Wisconsin, and laboratories in Oregon and Louisiana. More information can be viewed on TECO's website at www.tecotested.com or obtained by calling toll-free at 866-837-2790.